



News Bulletin

March 2022



As the end of the spring term draws near, we have many things to look forward to. This includes welcoming parent/carers back into school to enjoy some school events. We begin with parent/carer consultations. All mid year reports have been shared with parent/carers either by appointment in school or by telephone. Please contact school if you have not yet confirmed your appointment.

Over the remainder of this academic year, we aim to invite all of you into school and share some of the children's learning and have some fun too! We will be starting with a Year 1 Easter bonnet parade on 5th April. Nursery and Reception Easter bonnet parade will take place on 6th April followed by Year 3 and 4 coffee afternoon. Children will be singing some Easter songs and there will be an Easter picture quiz (£1 a team of 4). Refreshments will be on sale and the Easter raffle will be drawn. All raffle tickets were sent home yesterday and need to be returned by Wednesday 6th April. If you require additional tickets please contact the school office.

Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 parent/carers will be invited into school after Easter.

We will be holding our annual decorate an egg competition for children in Years 1 to 6. The theme of the competition is 'The Queen's Platinum Jubilee' to celebrate HRH Queen Elizabeth's 70 years of service. Please be as creative as you wish. All completed decorated eggs need to be brought to school on Thursday 7th April at 9am. There will be 1st 2nd and 3rd prizes for each class.

Thank you for your kind donations already sent in to support Red Nose Day. A reminder that children can wear red on Friday 18th March and donate a tin of food to support the Sunderland Foodbank. Donations can be sent into school and will be collected by the charity on this day. Enjoy the Easter holiday when it comes.

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Headteacher

Celebration Assembly

We are delighted to return to whole school assemblies once again to celebrate children's achievements and recognise all their hard work. Celebration assemblies are held every Friday.



Attendance February 2022

Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	97.3%
Reception	95.8%
Year 1	95.2%
Year 2	97.0%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	98.5%
Year 5	94.1%
Year 6	96.7%
Whole School	96.2%

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Details	Year Groups
5th April	Easter Bonnet Parade	Year 1 parent/carers invited into top hall at 9.15am	Year 1
6th April	Easter Bonnet Parade	Nursery and Reception parent/carers invited into top hall at 9.15am	Nursery and Reception
7th April	Easter Egg competition	Children to bring decorated eggs into school on Thursday morning	Year 1 to Year 6
7th April	Coffee afternoon	Parent/Carers of children in Year 3 and 4 invited into top hall at 2pm	Year 3 and Year 4
8th April	Last day of half term	Children break up for Easter	Whole School
25th April	First day of term	All children return to school	Whole School

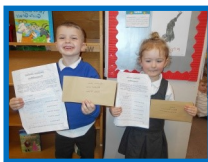
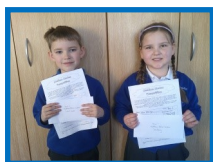
Thank you for all your efforts helping us celebrate World Book Day in school. It was lovely to see the children and staff wearing their pyjamas and sharing books with younger children as part of our Bedtime Stories theme.

In our classes, we completed some book-themed activities and enjoyed a story as a class with some cookies and milk. All children received a voucher to collect a free World Book Day book. Sainsbury's at the Galleries are stocking the free World Book Day books so just take your voucher along to claim your book if you haven't already.

Well done to all of those who entered our Bedtime Stories competition. We had a great response and the winners have been drawn.

Well done to Mila from Nursery; Freddie from Reception; Isla from Year 1; Lewis from Year 2; Jenna from Year 3; Gabrielle from Year 4; Ethan from Year 5 and Isabelle from Year 6 who received vouchers to spend.

Please take a look at our class pages to see our World Book Day celebrations.



Sport

The return of school football fixtures in the Washington District Football league have resumed on a Thursday night. Our school football team continue to perform well as a team; passing the ball well and playing some entertaining football to watch! We currently sit in a mid-table position. In other sports related news, we look forward to the summer term and the sunshine: we will be participating in our Be Safe, Be Fit, Be Healthy week; school sports days will return and with the warmer weather, P.E lessons and afterschool sports clubs will move onto the school field.

Early Years

This half term in the Early Years, the children have been taking part in a range of activities. On World Book Day, we enjoyed bringing in our favourite book and cuddly toy wearing our pyjamas and slippers. We had a fun day and thoroughly enjoyed Year 3 and Year 4 coming up to our setting and sharing our stories together.



We also enjoyed taking part in our bedtime story competition. We are so proud of our two winners who both received a voucher for their winning entries.

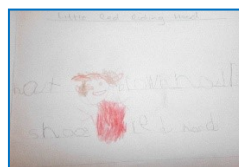
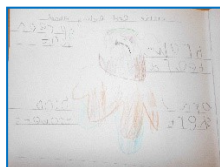
Nursery

In maths the children have been learning about size, positional language and time by sequencing events from their day. In Literacy, the children have been practising recognising, writing and making their names. They all had such a great time collaging their names. In phonics, the children have been singing a range of nursery and action rhymes and identifying a range of environmental sounds.



Reception

In maths the children have been learning about number bonds to 5 and addition. We have been using a range of strategies to help us to find the different ways of making 5. In Literacy we have been covering the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have been sequencing and talking about events from the story, drawing characters and writing labels to describe them. Every day we continue to practise our phonics and enjoy our reading practice sessions throughout the week.



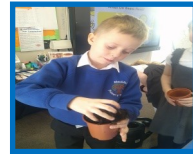
It was wonderful to be able to share our learning with our parents and carers during consultations and thoroughly enjoyed showing them around our early years setting. We are currently practising our Easter songs ready for our Easter Bonnet Parade and are really excited to share our singing with you. See you all on Wednesday 6th April at 9.15am.

We need your help!

We are wanting to replenish our resources for our mud kitchen and are hoping you can help. We need pans, cooking tins, muffin, pudding trays, baking trays, bowls, wooden/metal utensils and colanders. If you can spare any equipment that is in good condition, please drop it off at our Nursery or Reception class doors. Many thanks.

KEY STAGE 1 - YEAR 1 AND 2

This half term in Science, Year 1 children are learning about 'Plants'. For our first lesson, we discussed what a plant is, what it needs to grow, and what each part of a plant does. We then cut out the parts of a plant and created a plant in our book, before labelling each of the parts. To help us further with our understanding of how plants grow, we each planted our own cress seeds. We were each given a pot which we filled with soil. We then added some of the cress seeds and topped up the pot with extra soil. Finally, we watered our plants. We are going to monitor our plants' growth for the next 6 weeks and keep a diary to explain what we observe as they grow!



This term Year 2, have been learning about explorers and 'New Worlds' in history. In this unit of work, we first researched the life and discoveries of Christopher Columbus and have remembered some great facts about his life, we then compared Christopher Columbus with the life and achievements of Neil Armstrong. Children really loved learning about Neil Armstrong and the moon landing in 1969. We talked about how this expedition to the moon has changed life on Earth and our expectations of science and exploring unknown places. The children even reinacted the moon landing – discussing what it must have felt like to be the first person to walk on the moon. The children have really impressed with what they have remembered about 'New Worlds' and the explorers, which I'm sure they would love to share with their families at home.

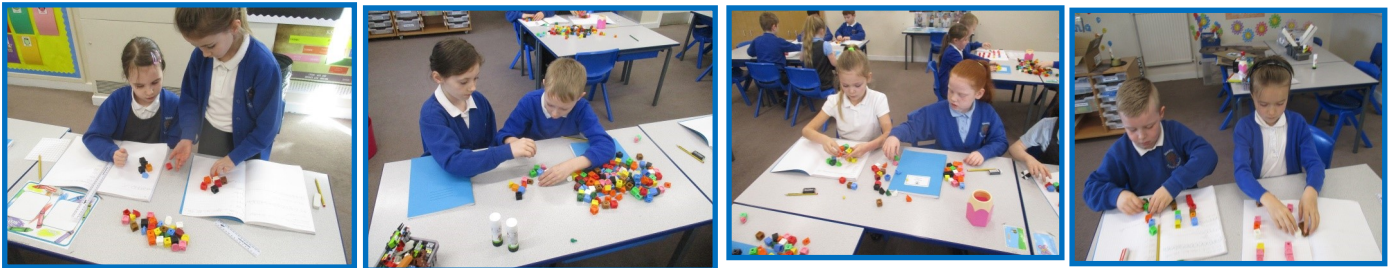


LOWER KEY STAGE - YEAR 3

Year 3 have been very busy over the past couple of weeks. In art the children have been learning about the fashion designer Vivienne Westwood in their unit "Fabulous Fashion!". They have looked at how fashion has changed through the eras and compared Vivienne Westwood to Coco Chanel. Next they have looked at logos and why they are important to any brand. Everybody enjoyed creating their own logo for their own brand. They printed this onto material ready to create a class final piece.



In Maths we have been practising our multiplying and dividing. We have been using different resources to support our learning. We have been practising our times tables daily and we are really improving!



In PE learning we have been practising yoga! We began with learning some basic moves like the tree, warrior and fox. After practising the moves and becoming confident, we then applied them to make our very own yoga sequence with our friends. We showed others our movements and asked them to follow us. We look forward to learning more moves!



LOWER KEY STAGE 2 - YEAR 4

Year 4 have had an excellent month and we have enjoyed learning lots of new and exciting things. During World Book Day we thoroughly enjoyed participating in a book tasting session, where we were able to explore a range of different genres and share our thoughts on the book with our friends.



During our PE lessons we have been enjoying learning how to play hockey. We have developed our understanding of how to hold a hockey stick correctly, how to control the ball with a hockey stick and how to perform a push pass. We are looking forward to learning lots of new skills in this sport.



During computing we have really enjoyed learning about the parts of a computer. We have discussed the terminology hardware and software and developed our understanding of what each part of the computer is used for. We then enjoyed a game of pairs as a class to see what we could remember!



UPPER KEY STAGE 2 NEWS - YEAR 5

In Science we have been learning about materials. In our lessons we learned about how to separate solutions and mixtures and more recently we have been looking at when reactions happen that cause an irreversible change. This week we investigated how Berocca tablets react with water. At first some of us thought that this reaction could be reversible as it is when you dissolve salt in water. However, on close inspection we noticed a colour change, gases being released and production of smell. These all indicated that this was irreversible. In groups we completed investigations to test factors which affect the speed in which the tablet dissolves. Some of us tested water temperature, others tested amount of water and some tested the shape of the tablet. We discovered that in order for a tablet to dissolve quickly, you should crush it into smaller pieces and put it in hot water.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2 NEWS - YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a great month and have thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning with parents/carers during parent evenings too, thank-you to all parents for speaking with myself, the children have been full of excitement and pride around their learning and work.

During World Book Day, Year 6 children entered the National Book Token competition in the hope of winning book tokens. They created some excellent voucher designs and we are hopeful of a winning entry!



They have also enjoyed Art this term exploring vases and have begun to create their final vases following their plans. They used a range of different techniques when working with the clay and are now waiting to be painted. I can't wait to see their final pieces!



During Literacy, Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Macbeth and have completed a range of writing tasks for different purposes and audiences. This week they have produced some excellent Newspaper reports, recounting the events of King Duncan's murder where they have demonstrated both reported and direct speech.

